

### **REMARKS**

This responds to the Office Action mailed on April 15, 2005. No claims are amended or cancelled. Claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

#### **§103 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DuPre' et al. (U.S. 5,880,925) in view of Hanson et al. (U.S. 5,889,647). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DuPre' et al. (U.S. 5,880,925) in view of Hanson et al. (U.S. 5,889,647) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Nitoh (U.S. 6,421,227).

The rejection states that, "DuPre' et al. lacks a plurality of terminals, wherein multiple first polarity connections are coupled to a single first polarity terminal and corresponding multiple second polarity connections are coupled to multiple second polarity terminals." The rejection further states that, "Hansen et al. teaches a plurality of terminals (figure 1), wherein multiple first polarity connections (3) are coupled to a single first polarity terminal and corresponding multiple second polarity connections (figure 1) are coupled to multiple second polarity terminals (3, figure 1)." Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Applicant submits that no motivation has been shown to combine the cited references, however, even if there were motivation to combine, the references do not show all elements of the claims. Hanson, in figure 1, appears to show two metallic contact electrodes 3 with a single electrode 3 on either side of a capacitor. Hanson also appears to show "a plurality of internal electrodes 2," however a number of the plurality of internal electrodes 2 appear to be coupled to one metallic contact electrode 3, while another number of internal electrodes 2 appear to be coupled to the other metallic contact electrode 3. A plurality of polarity connections appear to be coupled to single terminals, however nowhere in Hanson are a *plurality* of second polarity connections coupled to *multiple* second polarity terminals.

In contrast, independent claim 1 includes a plurality of terminals, wherein multiple first polarity connections are coupled to a single first polarity terminal and corresponding multiple second polarity connections are coupled to multiple second polarity terminals.

Because the cited references, either alone or in combination, do not show every element of Applicant's independent claims, a 35 USC § 103(a) rejection is not supported by the references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested with respect to claim 1. Additionally, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested with respect to the remaining claims that depend from claim 1 as depending on an allowable base claim.

Claims 18 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (U.S. 6,351,369) in view of DuPre' et al. (U.S. 5,880,925) and Hanson et al. (U.S. 5,889,647). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (U.S. 6,351,369) in view of DuPre' et al. (U.S. 5,880,925) and Hanson et al. (U.S. 5,889,647) as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Palanduz et al. (U.S. 6,795,296). Claim 20 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (U.S. 6,351,369) in view of DuPre' et al. (U.S. 5,880,925) and Hanson et al. (U.S. 5,889,647) as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Greenwood et al. (U.S. 6,590,762).

Similar to claim 1 as discussed above, independent claim 18 includes a plurality of terminals, wherein multiple first polarity connections are coupled to a single first polarity terminal and corresponding multiple second polarity connections are coupled to multiple second polarity terminals.

For at least the reasons discussed under claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 18 is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested with respect to claim 18. Likewise, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested with respect to the remaining claims that depend from claim 18 as depending on an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 373-6944) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.


Respectfully submitted,

AARON J. STEYSKAL ET AL.

By their Representatives,

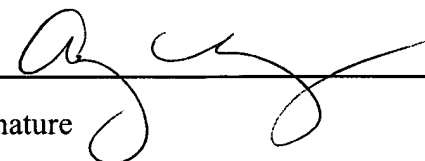
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Date 7-15-05

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 15th day of July, 2005.

Amy Moriarty  
Name

  
Signature

**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Formal Drawings are supplied herewith. No new subject matter is added.